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**On budget**  
Health centre also on schedule  
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**On the mat**  
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Website gets facelift  
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Operatic Society's Annie a hit  
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# INPORT NEWS



SERVING PORT COLBORNE • WAINFLEET • SHERKSTON • LOWBANKS • ISSUE NO. 9 VOLUME 16

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■ RATE DOWN

**Wainfleet  
poised for  
3% tax hike  
despite cuts**

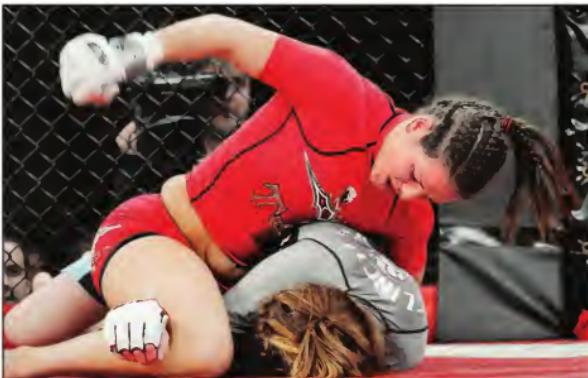
ALLAN BENNER  
InPort News Staff

WAINFLEET — Despite \$21,000 in cuts from the township's budget, average taxes are still poised to increase by about \$40 this year.

Aldermen made a few more spending cuts last week's budget meeting, reducing Wainfleet's tax hike to 3.046%. That's down from the 3.56% at the start of the meeting. The majority of the budget cuts were made two weeks ago when \$22,000 in spending was taken from the budget that would have seen a tax hike of more than 9%, said township treasurer Robyn Madere.

see TAXES | page 2

■ MIXED MARTIAL ARTS: Port Colborne's Alexis Davis looking to avenge first loss at Strikeforce event next week



DAVE JOHNSON Staff Photo

Alexis Davis beats up on opponent Tonya Evinger during their title fight in May 2010 at Seneca-Niagara Casino in Niagara Falls, N.Y. in this file photo. Davis is scheduled to face Sarah Kaufman in a women's bantamweight bout at Strikeforce: Tate vs. Rousey March 3.

**Stronger,  
faster,  
wiser**

EDDIE CHAU  
InPort News Staff

PORT COLBORNE — A lot can change in five years.

In 2007, Port Colborne native Alexis Davis made her mixed martial arts debut at Ultimate Cage Wars (UCW) 7: Anarchy, squaring off in the cage against former Strikeforce champion and fellow Canadian Sean Sherk. Davis' first professional MMA fight didn't go too well — she was knocked out in the third round.

"She handed me my first loss," Davis said of fight.

see MMA | page 2

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**DREAM IT. BUY IT. LIVE IT.**

## ■ MMA

# Davis looking to even the score with Kaufman

FROM PAGE 1

Five years later Davis is stronger, faster and wiser. With a 13-4 record and a fight record, March 3 she will face Kaufman again at Strikeforce; Tate vs. Rousey event in Columbus, Ohio in a bantamweight bout.

There's a lot at stake.

Not only can Davis avenge her first loss to Kaufman, but unofficially, the winner of the fight will be the No. 1 contender to Strikeforce's Women's Bantamweight

## Championship.

"We've been trying a lot of different combat styles for our fights," said Davis, who currently trains out of Daybowl Jiu-Jitsu and Fitness Academy in Stuart, Fla. "There's more focus on wrestling, more ground based attacks."

"There's a lot of kickboxing, strengthening and conditioning work."

Davis described her loss to Kaufman as a "huge mental game" as she fought away

**I'm more sound and in control of my fights. Now, I fight with purpose and knowledge.**

Alexis Davis

nerves and inexperience. With maturity and experience on her side this time around, Davis said her training has come a long way.

"I'm more sound and in control of my fights. Now, I fight with purpose and knowledge," she said.

The main event of next Saturday's card is the Women's Bantamweight Championship match between defending champion Miesha Tate and Ronda Rousey.

The title bout has garnered much attention

because of Rousey, who is known for talking down her opponents.

While Rousey's comments make her come off as the villain, it has garnered plenty of publicity for the sport, something that's welcomed by Davis.

"There's no doubt women's MMA is more popular now," Davis said. "Ronda talks smack and has a lot of self-confidence. She has a lot of people behind her. She said she wanted a title shot

and she got it.

"I may not like everything she says, but she put the sport on the map and those who may not have been sold on women's MMA are now paying attention."

Davis doesn't know who will win the main event. Regardless of the outcome, should she be successful in her bout, Davis said she welcomes the challenge.

*echau@wellandtribune.ca*  
Twitter: @EdChauTribune

## ■ TAXES

## Fire hall doors will not be widened

FROM PAGE 1

She said aldermen will give the \$4.2-million total budget final consideration at their March 13 council meeting.

The largest of the cuts made was \$10,000 earmarked for widening the doorways of the townships fire hall doors. They are not large enough to easily accommodate larger fire trucks.

Township engineer Greg Wulisman said the rearview mirrors on the sides of fire trucks need to be pushed against the sides of the vehicles to allow them to pass through the doorways.

Although the township had budgeted \$20,000 to widen the doors to pay for renovations to two fire halls, aldermen chopped that funding in half leaving enough to pay for only one door widening to be done at the Burnaby Rd. fire hall where firefighters were having the most difficulty.

Also, \$5,000 was cut that was to pay for data entry for a new computerized system for the township's tax rolls.

Wulisman said the funding was to pay someone to add 150 years of data into the computer software system purchased a year ago at a cost of \$3,500. Considering the sensitive nature of the data regarding the burial sites of people, Wulisman said it's a job that would require some-

one who would do the job meticulously.

"To have an error in that area is quite grave — no pun intended," he said.

Aldermen approved the cut hoping township staff would be able to handle the additional workload of entering the information.

Despite budget cuts, the township will still undertake \$663,000 in repairs to 11 roads including parts of Lakeshore, Flanagan, Burnaby and Moore Rds., five roads in the Sunser Bay area, Clarendon St. and Concession 6.

Ald. Ted Hessels is concerned about the township getting too deeply when it comes to needed road repairs. He is concerned that cutting road repairs will only compound problems in years to come.

Wulisman agreed.

"Every project that's delayed for a year causes a ripple effect in future years," he warned.

Hessels tried to convince his fellow aldermen to reinvest the cuts into the meeting room for the town hall of Pettifor Rd., but no one would second his motion to do so.

A second coat of asphalt needed on Sugarloaf St., cut from the budget two weeks ago, will still be completed this year, being funded with \$25,000 from the township's reserves rather than taxes.

**GREAT KIDS:** Sidey's and the city sponsoring contest



VICTORIA GRAY Staff Photo

The Tribune represented by circulation manager Karin Vanderzee, left, acknowledges Tammy Blodsoe from Sidey's Flowers and Gifts and Vince Badaway for the City of Port Colborne as bronze-level sponsors for the 2012 Search for Great Kids of South Niagara. Twenty-four youth will be honoured for their acts of kindness, personal achievement or ability to overcome challenges at the seventh annual Great Kids awards gala on April 29. Six will receive a \$500 RESP from Meridian Credit Union. Nomination forms are available inside the Tribune and will be accepted until March 16.

# portraits

■ **ON BUDGET:** Health and wellness centre on schedule, too

# Healthy progress made

DAVE JOHNSON  
InPort News Staff

**PORT COLBORNE** — Construction on the Vale Health and Wellness Centre is on budget and on schedule, said Badaway.

And the lack of real winter weather has helped, said Mayor Vance Badaway and Bill Steele, chair of Port Colborne's health and wellness committee.

"We have to praise weather gods for the winter we've had, it's really helped," said Steele.

Badaway echoed that sentiment and said parts of the new arena are still open to the elements.

"The outside hasn't been closed in yet ... but there's a lot of work going on inside," said Badaway.

The 15,000-square-metre centre will feature two NHL standard-sized rinks, an aquatic centre with lap and leisure pools, a gym and fitness area, bocce courts and an indoor walking track. It replaces Teeder Kennedy Youth Arena, Westside Arena and Centennial pool.

Badaway said insulation installation in the roof system of both arenas and the multi-purpose gym is ongoing.

"Most of the mechanical and refrigeration units have been delivered and concrete pads for mounting them have been poured."

The mayor said the second floor in the fitness area has gone in as have stairs.

"A lot of credit has to go to the general contractor Aquilon and its subcontractors," said Badaway of the progress on the construction site.

Steele said in speaking with other municipalities across Ontario, Aquilon is one of the premiere companies when it comes to work such as the health and wellness centre.



DAVE JOHNSON Staff Photos

Work on the Vale Health and Wellness Centre is on schedule and on budget, says Port Colborne Mayor Vance Badaway. The centre, which replaces two arenas and one pool, is still slated for a November opening this year.

"They're doing a great job. There's a big buzz in the community. People stop by the site every day and can't believe how it's moving along," the Ward 1 councillor said.

Steele can't wait for the centre to open and for it to be in use.

Badaway said the centre looks like he envisioned it would and that it's great to see it all coming together.

"When I go there, I visualize it as a community hub," he said, adding he's been there four times in the past

couple of months leading tours through the facility.

The mayor said a report will come to council next Monday about a possible partnership between the city and Niagara YMCA. The Y, he said, could provide aquatic fitness and general programming at the centre.

"The Y may have some enhanced services and additional programs to offer ... like a day-care area for children for example."

The health and wellness centre is expected to open in November of this year.



# IMPORT NEWS

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## ourview

## Hudak puzzles reporters

**T**wo days. Two leaders. Two styles. One spends 20 minutes in a scrum, repeating the same lame line, without answering a simple, direct question.

The other spends 11 minutes talking to reporters and finding a dozen different ways to say nothing.

The first is Progressive Conservative Leader Tim Hudak, recently returned from getting a leadership vote of confidence from his party.

On Feb. 22, several Tory MPPs hosted a news conference to support the horse racing industry, which is under threat of losing around \$340 million in revenues from slots. Hudak was asked why he's fighting to keep this revenue, when economist Don Drummond suggested this might be a way to save money.

It's a straightforward question Hudak should have expected.

He should have said something like: "This money isn't a subsidy. It's a revenue-share agreement based on money generated from slots at the racetracks through a deal cut more than a decade ago." Take away that money now and you'll kill racing, and devastate rural Ontario which depends on the industry for jobs.

Once upon a time, racetracks were the few places where gambling was allowed. They agreed to put slots in racetracks on the understanding that horse racing would get part of the revenues. Now it seems everyone's wondering why we have all these horses at the slot machine track.

Hudak's a Fort Erie boy. He should have those racetrack issues down cold. Instead, he launched into a bizarre and evasive exercise that left reporters scratching their heads.

Instead of answering a question about the geo-gees, he kept trying to make the point that Premier Dalton McGuinty is being picked and chosen which of the Drummond recommendations he'll implement.

On the Liberal side of the coin, all we hear from McGuinty are the things he's not going to cut.

He's not going to cut full-day kindergarten (\$1.5 billion a year). He's not going to cut the seniors' renovation tax credit (\$60 million a year) and the Ontario Clean Energy Benefit (\$1 billion annually) is sacrosanct. That's almost \$3 billion of cuts he won't make. That left people wondering, (a) was it really worth bringing in Drummond to study if you're not going to implement many of it? And (b), how can they possibly balance the budget if all the big ticket items are off the table?

McGuinity is right in not talking about the cost of time.

What Hudak needs is to take control of the issue with a pre-emptive strike.

Come up with an alternative budget. Set out a clear coherent document that shows exactly how he'd get the budget back in balance by the target dates set out by Drummond.

And the Liberals should stop the guessing game. As soon as the feds set their budget date, Finance Minister Dwight Duncan should set one for the province.

## I'VE BEEN THINKING

# If I could do it over again ...

REV. GORD ABRAHAM  
Port Colborne Baptist Church

In life you can make a lot of mistakes and have many regrets for what you did, said, or did not do.

I don't really have deep seated regrets but if I could do some things over again I would do them differently. Maybe this list of things will help you where you are at this point in your life.

The terror attacks on the World Trade Centre over 10 years ago began many people to think about what is most important in life. My youngest son and I, shortly after the attacks, discussed how many things did not seem very important now. What did seem to be important was no longer whereas, Family, Faith, community and relationships seem to come out as most important.

The following list of things that I would do over again is really me thinking of loud, what I listen to the news. In other cases I have done reasonably well, or at least as best as I could given the circumstances. In others not so well. Therefore more work is needed. It is never too late to start again.

If I have opportunity again I will: Fight my bent to selfishness by serving others more diligently. Jesus came and served even to the point of dying for sinners.

Touch my children and wife and tell them more often how much I love them. Jesus' love had as a major component of touching people-lepers, prostitutes, cripples, outcasts.

## readers' views

### Fed up with hospital comments

I know nothing about anyone else, but I am getting pretty fed up with opinion columns like Grant LaFleche's telling us "Niagara has to stop fighting change in the hospital system." (The Tribune, Niagara Regional section, Tuesday, Feb. 21)

In his view change is fine, provided everything goes to St. Catharines, including almost all acute care, cardiac, cancer, mental health, rehabilitation, hospice, addiction, obstetrics, pediatrics, renal, kidney dialysis and I am sure eventually trauma.

Mr. LaFleche says we should act like

Play more with them. I will drop all the work and demands and just play with them.

Develop and show a greater sense of wonder, awe and mystery in God, in God's Creation, and in People.

Point more often to God's craftsmanship in creation; to God's hand in our lives; to good things in people and to the dangers of life without God.

Pray more for people who I encounter in my daily routine of life. Listen more to God in their behalf and to others on my behalf.

Pursue God more intensely while calling my family and others to join me on this journey.

Read more to my kids/grandkids from the scripture stories and good works of talented authors.

Praise God more and speak graciously to each individual I encounter.

Spend less time and resources on material accumulation.

Treat my children and their spouses I would say.

Don't imagine or seek for a life that is easy. Seek a life that stretches you and requires you to take risks. Challenge the limits, learn from your failures and those of others. Failures are inevitable but not fatal; failure in action is usually not failure as a person.

Give yourself wholly to God.

Seek intimacy with God knowing that at will times our desire for intimacy, physical, relational and material purposes. You will lose nothing if you give these up to gain intimacy

one Niagara, but if that were true the new "regional" hospital would have been built in the geographic centre of Niagara. That was a political decision was made and has thus fractured the health-care system as many medical people advised would happen.

Mr. LaFleche says seriously ill people were not going to the ERs in Port Colborne or Fort Erie, but he did not live there, so did not realize services were gradually dismantled through the past 10 years without any public consultation.

In other words, the public was not fully aware the community hospitals were being gradually dismantled and then decimated when the NHS passed the hospital improvement plan in 2008,

with God.

Develop the desire and the habit of prayer, fasting and scripture reading. This will instil in you wisdom and discernment and for what God has a heart. Prayer is the avenue of intimacy with God. Scripture reading is your source of knowing God's will and ways.

Disciplining the input that comes into your mind so that you do not lose the sensitivity to your own sinfulness, the bent to sin in mankind and to the voice of God speaking to us.

Develop your mind through good reading and challenging thinking. Do not believe everything you read, see or are told.

Remember that the root temptation you face and the one that will ultimately determine your future spiritual health is the one that questions and seeks to deny the goodness of God.

Give yourself to others to meet their needs without any thought of reward or recognition or return. This real love.

Remember that in every area of life, "you reap what you sow." Sow what is most important.

Disappointments, hurts, pain and suffering are inevitable and your attitude in the middle of them will make the difference on what you do as a result of them.

Pride of achievement will make you hard to live with.

A thankful attitude in all things will draw people to you and to your God.

So, give yourself to God. No regrets just some things for which I will make room and take action on in my life.

leaving the southern tier underserved.

Mr. LaFleche says there is no evidence to prove any lives have been lost due to the hospital closing in Port Colborne and Fort Erie. He should understand it is very expensive to take on a wealthy, well-heeled (with our tax dollars) client like the Ministry of Health in a lawsuit, but there are a lot of stories "out there" we should all be concerned about.

For instance, in 2009 it took paramedics more than 40 minutes to transport a patient from Port Colborne to Welland hospital, where he died in the hospital parking lot. Perhaps LaFleche should check out the facts.

Continued on page 4

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## ■ COLUMN



# Experiencing culture shock

**C**lementina Tonci is a 14-year-old student born and raised in Rome, Italy. This summer she spent the summer of 2010 and 2011 at a camp in Pennsylvania to improve her English as well as experience North American culture. After living together for the past three months, Tonci was kind enough to sit down with me and answer some questions on what shocked her about our culture and the differences between how we live our every day life.

**Michelle Pressé:** Before you arrived, what did you expect North America to be like?

**Clementina Tonci:** I thought it was like what you see in the movies, or New York with lots of buildings and traffic. I expected it to be in Pennsylvania, and there were a lot of forests. It was beautiful, but not what I expected.

**Michelle Pressé**  
For InPort News

Clementina Tonci, 14, born and raised in Rome, Italy, spent the summer of 2010 and 2011 at a camp in Pennsylvania to improve her English as well as experience North American culture.



**Michelle Pressé**  
CANADIAN  
GIRL, ITALIAN  
LIVING

best and worst about our culture? Why?

**CT:** I like that everyone is proud of their culture. I like that we eat cheese every day at camp we ate French fries, chicken nuggets, and pancakes with sausage for breakfast. For food, I think Italy is better. And for pasta, the tomato sauce was like ketchup which was so terrible. The food is so different and there was something called blue pizza which is like pizza but if I brought it home my mom would be like, Where did you find this? Americans knew little about the rest of the world, but I had a Canadian counsellor who was more open. The Americans didn't even know where Florence was on the map.

**MP:** How do you think your life would be different if you had grown up in Canada instead of Italy?

**CT:** It isn't, really.

Your culture is a lot more exaggerated, but in a good way. For example, if you like a star in Italy, you just like them. But in North America you would be obsessed and you would walls covered with posters. I think we are much more laid back, and North Americans enjoy working.

**MP:** In what ways is our lifestyle similar to yours in Italy?

**CT:** Completely different. In my culture I learned so much about history, religion, and other cultures. My style, language, way of thinking would be so different. Nothing would be the same.

**MP:** How did people react upon learning that you came from Italy?

**CT:** It was funny because they asked so many questions. Everyone was so curious about Italian culture, and that was nice. There were also two girls from France in the camp and when I saw them we spoke French because we were in French school. Everyone was shocked because I'm Italian, go to a French school, and also speak English. They couldn't understand how I could speak more than one language, but in Europe it's very normal. They were also surprised that my mother or I know how to cook.

**Michelle Pressé** is an 18-year-old Port Colborne resident living and working in Rome, Italy until June 2012. She is a Lakeshore Catholic graduate who hopes to pursue her journalism degree next fall.

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## ■ COLUMN

# Coping with homesickness puts things in perspective

People experience homesickness in different ways.

Some first experience homesickness when they go away to summer camp as a child while roasting marshmallows and singing 'Old MacDonald Had a Farm' over a bonfire. Others feel this unsettling sensation when they move out of their parents' house and into a jut-sized dorm room at a new college or university.

And then there are people like me who experience this after moving more than



**Michèle Pressé**  
CANADIAN  
GIRL, ITALIAN  
LIVING

7,200 kilometres away from home to a country where English isn't commonly spoken and people scratch their heads upon hearing the words 'Tim Hortons.'

When I first moved to Italy last September, I didn't expect to feel homesick. It seemed crazy.

During my first week here

I checked my e-mail every 10 minutes to see if my mom had written me and I cried myself into a deep, seasick-like stupor, hoping things would improve the next morning.

Seeking advice, I turned to the Internet looking to brilliant minds like Oprah Winfrey and Albert Einstein for answers on homesickness. My infatuation and obsession with finding facts and quotes on homesickness didn't exactly help the situation.

My favourite quote comes

from my mom (who did eventually e-mail me back): "Pity those who do not experience homesickness, for they may never truly love or were loved, and lacked the bravery to travel out of their comfort zone."

The next morning I decided to put an end to this loneliness. I stuck my map inside my purse, grabbed my camera and took myself on a grand tour of my new city.

I visited parks, ate gelato and marmalade, ate bus routes (which was a big accomplishment for a country girl whose idea of transportation is bicycle via the Friendship Trail). I kept

myself busy and before I knew it the homesickness slowly disappeared.

I was in Italy and I was having fun being there for nearly six months. I still have moments where I miss home, but not enough to end my experience early.

Growing so comfortable with the city will make leaving it much like Jack and Rose's emotional goodbye in

What I learned from being homesick is that I was very fortunate to grow up in a small town like Port Colborne. I learned that no matter how much a person may disagree with their parents, you'll miss them

greatly once seeing them every day isn't an option. I learned that it's vital to get out of your comfort zone in order to have a positive on the world around you as well as your own backyard.

And throughout my extensive research on quotes about homesickness, a quote by Helen Keller will forever linger in my mind: "Life is either a daring adventure, or nothing."

*Michèle Pressé is an 18-year-old Port Colborne resident living and working in Rome, Italy until June 2012. She is a Lakeshore Catholic graduate who hopes to pursue her journalism degree next fall.*

# RECIPE of the month MARCH

## Our Port Country Pantry's VIC'S VEGETARIAN CHILI

1. In a large stewing pot, heat together canned diced tomatoes, onion, celery, sugar, & seasonings.

Bring to a boil. Simmer for 1 1/2 hour.

2. Add mixed beans &/or chili beans.

Bring back to a boil, then continue to simmer for 1/2 hour.

3. Dissolve Beef Granules in hot water. Stir in Texturized Vegetable Protein, let sit for 5-10 minutes, allowing T.V.P. to absorb water. (If thicker chili is desired add more beans &/or textured vegetable protein.) Stir into vegetables mixture. Simmer for 15 minutes more.

Optional: Excellent, served with a sprinkle of parmesan cheese.

\*This recipe freezes well.

**INGREDIENTS**

- (2) cans (28 ounces / 756 ml) diced Tomatoes.
- 1 1/2 cups chopped onion
- 1 1/2 cups celery (approx. 3 stalks)
- 2 tablespoons Granulated sugar
- 1 teaspoon Salt
- 1/2 teaspoon Black Pepper
- 1 teaspoon Chili Powder
- 1 teaspoon Granulated Garlic
- (2) 19 ounce can mixed beans, rinsed
- (2) 19 ounce can chili beans, with liquid
3. 1 teaspoon Beef Broth Granules
- 1/2 cup hot water
- 1/2 cup Texturized vegetable protein

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Supplied photo

Michèle Pressé sits in the water fountain at Lock 8 Park in Port Colborne, one of her favourite places to relax after walking the Friendship Trail. Pressé writes about homesickness as she spends a year in Italy.

## ■ COOL KIDS COOK



Supplied photo

Thanks to the 2011 Niagara Prosperity Initiative Grant, that Community Living Port Colborne-Wainfleet received late last fall, approximately 150 students from St Therese School, DeWitt Carter School, Ecole St. Joseph and the children living in the Saturn-Apollo Co-operative housing project, have had the opportunity to learn some basic cooking skills. The "Cool Kids Cook" program runs for six weeks, one night per week in each individual site. The program focuses on different themes and includes healthy cooking components, as well as at least half-an-hour of active play. The program continues until May.



## ■ FASHION SHOW

## Showcasing goods at local businesses

InPort News Staff

**PORT COLBORNE** — A spring fashion show featuring clothing from local businesses next Thursday will help Port Cares, said its marketing and communications co-ordinator.

"We're running this to show what Port Colborne has in regards to its shopping districts," said Caitlin Battista.

Battista said fashions being featured are from 270 Degrees West, Something Else, Wishing Well Bridal and Formal Wear, Glam Girl, and Flirt Bra Boutique.

The event will be held Thursday, March 8 at the Italian Hall, 223 Bell St., from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. at a cost of \$30. All proceeds will go to Port Cares.

Battista said when the doors open at 6 p.m., there will be a number of vendors and demonstrations. While the vendors hadn't been confirmed as yet, she said they would most likely be connected to fashion and accessories.

The dinner starts at 7 p.m., followed by the fashion show at 8 p.m.

For more information see Port Cares websites at [www.portcares.on.ca](http://www.portcares.on.ca).

## ■ UBERYOUTH: Basketball tickets donated to 10 young people



Supplied photo

Thanks to Gary Talosi of Dundee Wealth Management, 10 young people from UBERYOUTH, will be going to a Raptors game in Toronto on March 11. "I was totally flipping out when I heard that Mr. Talosi was going to donate us the tickets to see the Raptors play. I love basketball!" said Gordon Thomas, 16, of Lakeshore Catholic High School. "This is such an awesome opportunity. I would never be able to go see the Raptors play if it wasn't for Gary! I will never forget it! And the seats are just amazing!" said Catherine Desy, 17, of Lakeshore Catholic High School.

## You Know What? You Can Quit Smoking

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■ ENVIRONMENT: New York backs down from seeking stricter rules

# Ballast water decision a relief to Algoma chief

DON FRASER  
QMI Agency Niagara

ST. CATHARINES — News that New York state has stepped back from ultra-strict ballast regulations has Algoma Central Corp.'s top executive relieved.

But Greg Wight remains wary about possible future standards that are still unachievable.

Last week, the state Department of Environmental Conservation said it will pursue a uniform national standard for ballast water rules, instead of an earlier proposal that would have imposed standards 100 times more stringent than International Maritime Organization rules that currently govern the cleaning of ships' ballast water.

The change in position follows backlash from the St. Lawrence-Great Lakes maritime industry over the proposal, which could have closed the St. Lawrence Seaway in New York waters because the technology isn't there to meet the standard.

"Our stance on ballast water is we need a regulatory regime that is both uniform and achievable," said Wight, CEO of Algoma Central Corp.

"We're absolutely certain the technology isn't there yet to achieve an IMO standard, let alone something that's a multiple."

Greg Wight, Algoma Central Corp. CEO

is both uniform and achievable," said Wight, CEO of Algoma Central Corp.

"Unfortunately, the achievable part is not the same message in the underlying words."

Wight said the standard is the state will continue to advocate with the EPA and other states to have a standard higher than IMO.

"Our only concern is (that) the regulations don't get ahead of the technology," he said. "And we're absolutely certain the technology isn't there yet to achieve an IMO



The Peter R. Cresswell passes underneath the Glendale Bridge in this file photo.

JULIE JOCSAK QMI Agency Niagara

standard, let alone something that's a multiple."

New York's concern is to prevent

the introduction and spread of invasive species like the zebra mussel and other non-native aquatic invaders into waterways through ballast discharge.

The Chamber of Marine Commerce figured the tougher rules would have cost \$55,000 Canadian jobs and \$8.5 billion in economic activity.

Now, the existing New York standards will remain in place at least until the end of 2013.

Under the original proposal, operating ships would have had to meet a water-quality standard 100 times tougher than the IMO rules by August 2013, the Chamber said in a Wednesday statement.

Ships built after January 2013 would have to meet 1,000 times the current standard, it said.

Wight said part of the problem is the technology required to deal with cold Great Lakes freshwater — most systems deal with warmer seawater.

Algoma's ships also discharge ballast water quickly.

"You not only need a large system that can treat ballast water, but you have to be able to treat it in freshwater and coldwater," he said.

While the technology is being worked on, a system hasn't yet been approved by the U.S. Coast Guard to operate in the Great Lakes, even at IMO standard, Wight said.

"And we now have a two-year window, essentially ... so we have

some time to work with the regulators and technology to be sure it's in sync."

St. Lawrence Seaway Management Corp. spokesman Andrew Begora said the challenge is to meet ballast quality standards that are both protective as well as being practical.

"That is indeed the goal we are all seeking to achieve."

St. Catharines Mayor Brian McMullan said the development is "positive news."

McMullan, the chair of the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative, said the binational mayors' group had asked New York state to "take a step back and give some time for more discussion and discussion, and to really look at the science of what is achievable."

McMullan said the group also spoke of the need for national standards, given the many political jurisdictions through the Great Lakes alone.

"Industry needs some kind of certainty in making sure they comply with any ballast water regulations."

The mayor added on Monday the committee felt that same standards for both sides of the border would be the "most constructive way to go."

"To be fair, New York state has been listening and this will allow for (these) kinds of discussions to take place."

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## ■ PUBLISHER'S COLUMN: Visit and explore The Tribune's new website



# Welcome to our World Wide Web makeover

PORT COBORNE — Wednesday, Feb. 22 marked the launch of a new website for The Tribune, marking our strong commitment to the provision of information to the residents of south Niagara.

It's been a busy year for us here at The Tribune and indeed for all of Sun Media Niagara, which saw the chain's other two dailies, *The St. Catharines Standard* and *Niagara Falls Review* also launch new websites.

If you haven't had a chance to go online and check us out, I strongly urge you to do so. Visit [www.wellandtribune.ca](http://www.wellandtribune.ca) and what you'll find is a vibrant presentation of the news that affects your local community, your region and beyond.

But that's not where it ends. This new site offers the traditional interactivity many of you have enjoyed, plus a number of new options that should help make your day all the more interesting. Join our exclusive UR community to comment, discuss, share and more. Let our visual navigation guide you through new features and interactive social media tools. We also invite you to browse our local business community through the Marketplace and our advertising partners.

Whether you access your community information at home on your computer or tablet or if you are mobile, the new sites are designed to be responsive to the size of the screen you use to access us.

As I write this, it's been less than a day since the website went live, but



Ken Koyama

we've received much positive feedback through social media, on the site itself and through phone calls and comments on the street.

The website launch comes on top of the kickoff to our regionwide Niagara Regional section on Tuesdays.

Just two months into 2012, these two projects alone mark what we feel is a proven commitment to reach out to our leadership area in new, innovative ways.

Given that prior to launching this new website, *The Tribune* was already welcoming more than 120,000 unique visitors per month, who read more than 890,000 web pages a month — visitors to the three Niagara dailies read more than 3.25 million pages — which means we are working hard to stay in touch with you in a progressive, interactive, meaningful way — every day and in every way you choose to access us.

I invite you to explore our new site and click on the 'Give us your opinion' feedback link to let us know what you think. Or provide feedback through Twitter and Facebook.

Ken Koyama is publisher for digital and print at *The Tribune* and *InPort News*

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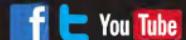
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## ALONG THE LAKESHORE

**MONDAY, MARCH 12**

The Port Colborne Historical Society will meet at 7 p.m. at Portal Village Retirement Home. Guest John Maloney, former Member of Parliament, will speak about "My Life on the Hill". All welcome. Call 905-835-2291 for more information.

## EVENTS AT ONTARIO EARLY YEARS CENTRE

Port Colborne Ontario Early Years Centre offers **interactive play sessions** Monday to Wednesday from 9-12 and 1-4, Thursday from 9-12 and 1-7 and Friday from 9-12. These programs are for children birth to six years of age and their parent or caregiver. Please visit the Ontario Early Years Centre, Port Cares, 92 Charlotte Street.

Port Colborne or call 905-834-9071 ext. 238 or email [oeyc-pci@portcares.on.ca](mailto:oeyc-pci@portcares.on.ca) for more information.

Port Colborne Ontario Early Years Centre is offering an **All About Me – Interactive Preschool Program** on Thursday, March 1 and 8 from 9:30 – 11:30, pre-registration is required. These morning sessions are for preschoolers aged 2½ to 6 years and their parent/caregiver.

## Port Colborne Ontario

Early Years Centre is offering a **Winter Make and Take – Interactive Toddler Program** on Wednesday, March 7 from 9:30 – 10:45, pre-registration is required. This morning session is for toddlers aged 18 months to 30 months and their parent/caregiver.

Port Colborne Ontario  
Early Years Centre is offering  
**Interactive play sessions**  
during March Break – March 12  
to March 16.

## Port Colborne Ontario Early

Years Centre is offering a **Play and Learn, Kids in the Kitchen – Interactive Toddler Program** on Wednesday, March 21 and 28 from 9:30 – 10:45, pre-registration is required. These sessions are for toddlers aged 18 months to 3 months and their parent/caregiver. Please visit the Ontario Early Years Centre, Port Cares, 92 Charlotte Street, Port Colborne or call 905-834-9071 ext. 233 or email [oeyc-pc@portcares.on.ca](mailto:oeyc-pc@portcares.on.ca) to register.

Years Centre is offering a PALS (Parents as Literacy Supporters) Program on Thursday, March 22, 29, April 5, 12 and 19 from 9:30 – 11:30. This multi-session interactive program is designed for parents with children ages 3-4 years, to support their child's development of reading, writing and numeracy skills. Pre-registration is required. Please visit the Ontario Early Years Centre, Port Cares, 92 Charlotte Street, Port Colborne or call 905-834-9071 ext. 238 or e-mail [oyc-pe@portcares.on.ca](mailto:oyc-pe@portcares.on.ca) to register.



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## ALONG THE LAKESHORE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12

Port Colborne Ontario Early Years Centre is offering a **Baby & Me, Music - Infant Interactive Play Program** on Monday, March 26, pre-registration is required. This

program is for infants and their parent/caregiver. This afternoon session is offered from 1:30-3:30. Please visit the Ontario Early Years Centre, Port Colborne, 925 Lakeshore Street, Port Colborne or call 905-834-2071 ext. 238 or email [oeyc-pc@portcares.on.ca](mailto:oeyc-pc@portcares.on.ca) to register.

Port Colborne Ontario Early Years Centre offers DPS (**Developmental Preschool Screening**). This is a preliminary screening tool that provides parents with information about their child's developmental milestones and to ensure that their developmental needs are being met.

Port Colborne Ontario Early Years Centre offers NutriSTEP(r). (Nutrition Screening Tool for Every Preschooler). NutriSTEP(r) is a fast and easy way to review eating habits and identify nutrition problems in 3 to 5 year old children. Please speak with staff if you are interested in completing a nutrition questionnaire for your child.

## inPortbriefs

## COP CASE IN COURT

WELLAND — A veteran Niagara Regional Police officer charged with assault after an argument with a male nickel plant in Port Colborne police returned to court next month. The alleged Sept. 6 incident involved the off-duty NRP officer and a male security guard. Another uniformed

police officer was also present at the time of the altercation and separated the two men, police said at the time.

Const. Darryn Barrow, a 24-year veteran with the NRP, has been charged with assault. His case was before Welland court last week and has been adjourned until March 21 at 9 a.m.

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## NOTICE OF PUBLIC OPEN HOUSES

Proposed Regional Policy Plan Amendment  
(RPPA I-2012)

## Niagara's Economic Gateway Zone and Centre

## Purpose of the Open House

The purpose of this Public Open House is to present the proposed Regional Policy Plan Amendment RPPA I-2012: Niagara's Economic Gateway Zone and Centre and to receive comments and answer questions from the public regarding the proposed Amendment.

## What is the Purpose and Effect of the Proposed Amendment to the Region's Policy Plan?

The Region's Growth Management Strategy, Niagara 2031 includes policies which implement the Provincial Growth Plan's Economic Gateway Zone and Centre designations. RPPA I-2012, Niagara's Economic Gateway Zone and Centre Amendment provides strategic direction for the development of employment lands within the Gateway and outlines a land use strategy to support economic development and job creation in these areas. Niagara Region has prepared draft policies and mapping for RPPA I-2012 which can be viewed at [www.niagararegion.ca](http://www.niagararegion.ca). Niagara Region would like to obtain your views on this important policy initiative.

## Have Your Say

Public input on this proposed amendment is welcomed and encouraged. Three Open Houses in the municipalities of Port Colborne, Welland and Fort Erie are being held to obtain your view. You can provide your input by attending one of the open houses where comment sheets will be made available. Representatives from the Region, their consultants and the respective local municipality will be present at each Open House to answer questions and discuss the next steps in the Gateway Amendment.

The three Public Open Houses will be held at the following locations:

Thursday, March 22, 2012

7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Council Chambers

Port Colborne City Hall

66 Charlotte Street

Port Colborne, ON

Wednesday March 28, 2012

7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Community Room

Welland City Hall

60 East Main Street

Welland, ON

Thursday March 29, 2012

7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

From Atrium

Fort Erie Town Hall

I Municipal Centre Drive

Fort Erie, ON

If you have any questions or concerns please contact:

Brian Dick, MCIP, RPP, Policy Planner, Integrated Community Planning Department  
at (905) 685-1571 ext.3365 or [brian.dick@niagararegion.ca](mailto:brian.dick@niagararegion.ca)

If you require any accommodations for a disability in order to attend and participate in the three Open Houses, please contact the Accessibility Advisory Coordinator at 905-685-4225 ext. 3252, as soon as possible, or [accessibility@niagararegion.ca](mailto:accessibility@niagararegion.ca) to make the appropriate arrangements.

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[www.niagararegion.ca](http://www.niagararegion.ca)

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## ■ SEMINAR: Top jiu-jitsu instructor teaches in Port



DAVE JOHNSON Staff Photo

Mike Alfieri practices a move from the guard position with Jessica Elliott during a seminar put on by Pablo Popovitch, a jiu-jitsu champ, at Dayboll Jiu-Jitsu this past Sunday.

# Finding the right instructor

DAVE JOHNSON  
InPort News Staff

Jean Jaques. He also trained under Carlson Gracie and the legendary Carlson Gracie Team.

He started com old and has won more than 300 matches at grappling submission events. One of his biggest wins came in 2009 at the Abu Dhabi World Submission Wrestling Championship, the most prestigious grappling tournament in the world.

He's also a three-time World Jiu-Jitsu Champion, three-time Pan American Jiu-Jitsu Champion, 13-time Grapplers Quest champion and a 10-time North American Grappling Association Superfight champion.

Dayboll said Popovitch is a special person. "He's a rarity ... there's not many that can be in the top three of grapplers in the world for five straight years," he said, adding he's learned a lot from the Brazilian, who he now has with a couple of weeks.

Alexis Davis, a mixed martial arts fighter out of Dayboll's club and instructor, has trained with Popovitch as well.

see JIU-JITSU | page 15

## ■ JIU-JITSU

# Understanding of fundamentals key in sport

## FROM PAGE 14

Dayboll said Davis' ground game has improved a lot because of the training and will help her in her Korförce fight on March 3.

Before the seminar started, Popovitch said he'd be going over how to fight from the guard position, which means fighting off of your back on the ground.

Popovitch recently released a new DVD called No Gi Guard Secrets, which shows techniques for fighting from half-guard, reverse half-guard and bottom escapes and submissions.

"I'll go whatever they want though."

Popovitch used Jake Dayboll, Dave's son, to demonstrate tech-

niques on before those in the seminar tried them out. He'd go over the technique a couple of times and then attack it and then be working on students, offering pointers and tips, as they performed the moves.

"They're picking it up super quick. The young kids are learned really fast," said Popovitch, as he watched the seminar participants.

For those wanting to learn jiu-jitsu, the most important thing, he said, was finding a good instructor, someone that will start you on the right track.

"You don't want to go to a school where a guy is putting you in to spar right away and you don't know what you're doing. You want to start with the fundamentals, the basics, and

understand what you are supposed to do."

Popovitch said if an instructor doesn't start you off that way, then

learning jiu-jitsu becomes an unenjoyable experience.

For more information on Popovitch, visit his website at [www.bjjcenter.com](http://www.bjjcenter.com).

[bjjcenter.com](mailto:bjjcenter.com).

</

■ **OPEN HOUSE:** Official plan yet to be approved by region

# Public offers input on township's zoning

**VICTORIA GRAY**  
InPort News Staff

**WAINFLEET** — Getting Wainfleet in the zone.

Last Saturday morning Wainfleet held an open house at the firehall to get guidance, opinions and feedback from residents about the township's new comprehensive

zoning bylaw and site plan control guidelines.

Mayor April Jeffs said the last, and first zoning bylaw the township created came in 1978 and it needs to be updated.

"We want to have public input on anything we do in the township, it's important, this is the real nuts and bolts

of it," she said.

The zoning bylaw has to be changed once the official plan for the township is approved by the Niagara Region, which Jeffs hopes occurs in the near future.

The new bylaw will deal with three main areas — agriculture, private roads and lot

coverage.

There are two agricultural zones in the township, A1, which are near hamlets and A2. These roads have been approved for large scale animal operations.

Paul Lowes, from Sorensen Gravely Lowes Planning Associates, said the provincial government now regu-

lates this with their Minimal Distance Formula, so the town may not officially need those zones.

"In the past now residents must get a permit to build anything if they live on a private road," he said. "Why when some of those roads are paved and just as good as public roads, do we need

that?"

They were also looking into lot coverage because as it stands now only 7% of a residential lot can be covered by buildings.

"Only about 20% of properties meet that criteria. Some lots are so small you would end up having a 500 sq ft house," Lowes said.

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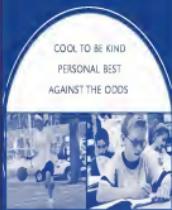
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PERSONAL BEST  
AGAINST THE ODDS



Please provide a brief description of the nominee's contributions to their family and community as well as a brief description of the nominee's efforts in school. (You may attach your description if more space is required to a maximum of 1,000 words.)

Name of Nominee: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/Town: \_\_\_\_\_

Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Age:  6-12  13-18

Category:  Cool to be Kind  Against the odds  Personal Best

#### NOMINATOR'S CHECKLIST

Before forwarding your nominations, please ensure you've completed the following steps:

- Have You
  - ✓ Signed the nomination form?
  - ✓ Completed all sections of the nomination form?
  - ✓ Provided a brief description of the nominee's contributions?

Nominator Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

#### NOMINATOR'S DESCRIPTION:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Mail or drop off completed nomination form to:

**THE TRIBUNE 228 East Main St. P.O. Box 278 Welland, ON L3B 5P5**

**Please note: Complete nomination form, letters of support and any other materials submitted will not be returned**

#### Judging Criteria

Nominees must be a resident of Pelham, Port Colborne, Wainfleet or Welland. Their accomplishments must have occurred within the past year. There is a 1,000 word limit for all nominations. No additional material will be accepted. Judges will rate each nominee from 1-10 in the following:

- What has the nominee accomplished during the past year?
- How has this accomplishment impacted on themselves and/or others?
- Why did the nominee set out to do this?

24 Semi finalists will be honoured at the Great Kids Awards Gala on Sunday April 29th at Club Castagnignano

**COOL TO BE KIND** Nominees will have performed a service or act of kindness, support or encouragement to a friend, family, neighbour or stranger with no personal gain for themselves. This could be an ongoing or one-time service to an individual, group or community.

**PERSONAL BEST** Nominees will have achieved a level of performance beyond what might have been expected. This could mean achieving a top performance overall or performance to the best of their ability. Achievements can be in any area including business, academics, athletics, music, art, writing, drama, etc.

**AGAINST THE ODDS** Nominees will have shown great strength, ambition and dedication in overcoming a mental, physical, personal, economic or environmental challenge to achieve a goal.

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HOME WORKERS  
NEEDED!

Dear Entry

Typing Form

Workers

must work at least one

hour per day & have

internet access.

No experience

needed.

With train.

www.BasicOnlineWork.com

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# PUPO'S

Corner of  
Maple Ave. and  
Prince Charles  
Drive

FRESH PORK  
PUPO'S HOT OR MILD  
**ITALIAN SAUSAGE**

SAVE  
\$1.00  
lb.

**3.99**  
lb.

SPECIALS in effect Friday March 2nd to closing Thursday March 8th, 2012 • OPEN SAT. 8-6, SUN. 10-5, MON., TUES., WED. 9-6, THURS. & FRI. 9-9

CUT FROM CANADA AA AND AAA BEEF

**PUPO'S LEAN**

**GROUND BEEF**

**1/2  
PRICE**

**1.99**

lb.

3 Pkg  
Limit

CUT FROM CANADA AAA BEEF  
BONELESS SIRLOIN TIP

**FAST FRY  
STEAK**

**5.99**  
lb.

SAVE  
\$4.00  
lb.

**D'ITALIANO  
BREAD**

675 g  
loaf



**2/\$4**

**DELI Specials**

Deli Sliced

MONTRÉAL STYLE  
SMOKED BEEF

**1/2  
PRICE**

**3.99**  
lb.

Artisan

OVEN ROAST  
TURKEY BREAST

**1/2  
PRICE**

**6.99**  
lb.

Salmon Delice

MOZZARELLA  
CHEESE

**4.99**  
lb.

**PUPO'S BAKERY**

FRESH BAKED MEDIUM

**KAISER  
ROLLS**

Pkg of 12

**2.99**

FRESH BAKED

**APPLE  
CRISP**

680 g

**3.99**

FRESH ONTARIO PORK  
BONELESS BUTTERFLY

**PORK CHOPS**

**SAVE  
\$3.00  
lb.**

**3.99**  
lb.

**Sealed**  
**CHOCOLATE MILK**

1 LITRE  
CARTON

**\$1**

6 Carton  
Limit



**KETTLE COOKED  
DUTCH CRUNCH  
POTATO CHIPS**

200 g bag

**1/2  
PRICE**

**1.49**

**BECEL  
MARGARINE**

2 lb. tub



**4.99**

**HEINZ  
BEANS**

14 oz can

**\$1**

**ROYALE  
FACIAL TISSUE**

Box of 88 or 132

**\$1**

**ROBIN HOOD  
FLOUR**

10 kg bag

**9.99**  
2 Bag Limit

**CALIFORNIA LARGE  
SEEDLESS ORANGES**

**79¢**  
lb.



**NO. 1 GRADE MEXICAN  
ASPARAGUS**

**1.49**  
lb.



**FROM THE TROPICS  
JUMBO CANTALOUPE**

**2.99**  
Each



**NO. 1 GRADE CALIFORNIA  
CELERY HEARTS**

**1.29**  
Each



**NO. 1 GRADE CALIFORNIA  
ICEBERG or LEAF LETTUCE**

**\$1**  
Each

**NO. 1 GRADE FLORIDA  
SWEET GREEN PEPPERS**

**99¢**  
lb.

